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Title: Problems being faced by chilli growers due to spread of wilt disease in Bellary, Karnataka.

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY (BELLARY): Thank you, Deputy-Speaker, Sir.

I stand to raise a matter of public importance relating to my Bellary District in the State of Karnataka where the chilli growers have been suffering from huge losses. In more than 1,760 hectares of land, the chilli crop has been affected by wilt disease which made complete loss of the chilli crops. The loss estimated by the State Government is Rs.6,58,50,000. That is, the per hectare expenditure is coming to Rs.37,500.

Sir, the farmers are in great trouble with this loss. So, I urge upon the Union Government to come to the rescue of the farmers and compensate the losses incurred by the chilli growers in my Bellary District immediately. Thank you, Sir.[m74]